



EL HEMISFERICO

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HHC AMPS UP TRAINING



WHINSEC takes steps to create standardized combat readiness training plan for U.S. Soldiers

By Jo Kennedy
ELH Staff Writer

In the past few months, WHINSEC Soldiers have been taking several office breaks. But the Institute's personnel have not been working less. In fact, they have been working more.

Since August, WHINSEC Soldiers have been juggling their daily organizational duties to take advantage of new specifically-designed training opportunities that concentrate on combat readiness skills.

WHINSEC's training calendar, which is normally focused on educating and instructing international students, is now speckled with training for U.S. Soldiers thanks to the leaders of Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC).

"Our goal is to have all of our Soldiers trained in all common task skills and introduce them to more advanced skills," said HHC First Sgt. David Gonzalez.

"The bottom line is that these Soldiers will eventually go back to deployable units and I would like them to be prepared," he said.

Spc. Gerardo Salazar, who works in an administrative position in WHINSEC's Human Resources Division, is grateful for this chance to hone his Soldier skills.

"Because we are in a Training and Doctrine (TRADOC) environment, it is not expected for us as Soldiers to go down-ranges to participate in combat training," said Salazar. "But this refresher training gives us the opportunity to go to these ranges to experience what Infantry Soldiers do everyday."

And experience is exactly what they are getting.

In the past three months, WHINSEC Soldiers have already taken advantage of training events in Combat Water Survival

See HHC Training page 10

HHC Commander Cpt. Jorge Albin (center) demonstrates the proper shooting stance for Spc. Gerardo Salazar (left) and Staff Sgt. Maritza Rosales (right) during combat pistol marksmanship training, 19 Sept.

Medical Assistance Course Director gets additional AAR from jungles of Peru

By Jo Kennedy
ELH Staff Writer

Many Soldiers will likely agree that the military practice of conducting After Action Reviews (AAR) is beneficial for planning future training events.

But for Combat Service Support Division Medic Instructor Staff Sgt. Jeffry Feliciano, who recently completed his assigned mission as Director of the Combat Medical Assistance Course,

what proved most rewarding was not the success of his recent AAR. Instead, the positive affirmation came to him in a letter from a student named Jessica, who is currently working in the tropical rain forests of Peru. Jessica, who is a civilian field medic with a Peruvian national drug eradication program known as the Project for the Control and Reduction of Coca Cultivation in Upper Huallaga Valley

(CORAH), says to Feliciano in her letter: "It is good to be back home, but the sad thing is I only got a short break and now I am back in the jungle again ... tomorrow I am deploying to another coca eradication zone, but that's part of the job. ... Your advice is always present in my mind, along with the strength you have given me to reach my goal. ... Thanks again for all you have taught me ... "

See Medical Assistance AAR page 8

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Commandant's Corner



The next big event for WHINSEC is the Open House, which is offered annually to those who would come to protest us. This year promises to be the largest for our activity, with more than 600 people representing more than 30 organizations having asked to come.

At the time we are hosting these visitors, I hope the rest of the WHINSEC team and all the WHINSEC families go to the God Bless Fort Benning event at the Civic Center.

Columbus is always a gracious host to the military, and the activities downtown from 10am to 6pm on Saturday, Nov.

19 will be great fun for the entire family. The Budweiser

wagon will be here, pulled by the famous Clydesdale horses; more than 500 motorcycles will parade by; child rides and military equipment displays will be on the grounds; there will be helicopter rides, military reenactors, and several bands, highlighted by a concert featuring country music star Tracy Lawrence.

If you stay for the evening, the Columbus Cottonmouths will have a hockey game in the Civic Center that same day. The very next week is Thanksgiving, and we'll be having a WHINSEC Thanksgiving lunch somewhere near the institute. Following that, I hope all of you take the time to enjoy a safe Thanksgiving with your families.

Our Board of Visitors come to review our year in public meetings on Dec. 1-2. This year's meeting is special, because we have five new civilian members who will be on the board for at least the next three years. The BoV looks at everything about us, and verifies to the country that we are doing what we are supposed to be doing. The last big event for this calendar year will be our Christmas ball downtown. I hope all of you will come and enjoy the joy of the season together. Finally, Christmas is always a family time, but it is frequently a time of stress as people travel and hurry about shopping and the like. I hope everyone takes the time to be safe and to reflect on what is important in your life. Come back in the New Year refreshed and prepared for the challenges that face us. Thanks for all you do to make WHINSEC the outstanding organization that it is. I continue to enjoy being the commandant here, because the people who work here are truly superb and dedicated to accomplishing our mission.

Col. Gilberto R. Pérez, WHINSEC Commandant

Outstanding Soldiers & Civilians of the Quarter

Congratulations to Command Group Secretary **Brenda Sturdee**, who received the Commander's Quality Award for her demonstrated commitment to excellence: her initiative, creativity and technical skills in preparing the power point slides, in both English and Spanish, for several lectures in the Democratic Sustainment Course and for major presentations requiring complicated graphics that are being used in other courses. Sturdee was officially honored at the Fort Benning Command General's 2-Star Breakfast on 14 October.



Congratulations to Training Noncommissioned Officer **Staff Sgt. Maritza Rosales** for earning the Fort Benning Fiscal Year 2005 Current Station Stabilization Plaque for her demonstrated commitment to excellence at WHINSEC as the Retention Noncommissioned Officer. Rosales was officially honored, along with the Institute, at the Fort Benning Commanding General's Retention Awards Luncheon, 1 Nov.

Opinion

La Opinión



As the WHINSEC Equal Opportunity Representative, I strongly believe in the practice of cultural awareness training, especially when someone is working and living among different cultures, as we here at WHINSEC are surrounded by people from 19 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

As Soldiers and civilians employed by the Department of Defense, we will find ourselves working with -- or for -- someone of a different country at some time in our life, whether while stationed here in the United States or overseas in their home country. How much you know about the culture of those you work with, or the traditions and history of the foreign country you are in, can make the

difference between how well you will adjust to your work environment and how much of a success you will be. With different cultures come different lifestyles, customs and traditions and it is for this reason that cultural awareness is necessary. Respect and dignity for others should be the ultimate reason why we all should take the time to make ourselves aware of the culture and beliefs of our neighboring countries.

That is why WHINSEC's recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month in September is an extraordinary celebration. By having weekly events during this period, including the Cena Típica, Bocadoillos, and the Festival of the Hemisphere, we not only share this appreciation within the WHINSEC family, but with members from the surrounding community. People ranging from the elementary school student to the local congressman all have the chance to witness WHINSEC's civilians, Soldiers and family in celebration of its colorful history and cultural diversity. And this appreciation for each other is evident because of the support and focus from those in leadership positions on providing Cultural Sensitivity training for all members of the WHINSEC team.

Staff Sgt. David Leyva, WHINSEC Operations Sergeant



Photo by Spc. Adrian Lugo

WHINSEC Commandant Col. Gilberto Pérez discusses the importance of respect and cultural awareness with civilians, U.S. Soldiers and Foreign Guest Instructors during the Institute's Cultural Sensitivity Training Seminar in September.

In the Loop With WHINSEC

What is your opinion on issues related to Cultural Sensitivity training?

"Some comments can be offensive to females but not necessarily to males. So I think it is important to find out how something will be interpreted before saying the wrong thing to an individual."



**- Staff Sgt. Maria Alcala,
Directorate of Logistics
Supply Sergeant**



**- Joe Recio,
International Student
Division Chief**

"WHINSEC events, such as during Hispanic Heritage month, allow us to become better aware of and educated in the different cultures and customs represented here."

"Cultural Sensitivity training for Soldiers and civilians helps us all to get perspective by associating with the variety of people we work with at WHINSEC."



**- Doris King,
Student Company
Training Technician**

CGSOC's End of Summer Study: Annual Human Rights and Democracy Week

by Dr. Donald Harrington
WHINSEC's Dean of Academics
ELH Contribution

DEAN'S NOTES
A COMMENTARY
ON SCHOLASTIC HAPPENINGS

The final iteration of WHINSEC's traditional Command and General Staff Officers Course (CGSOC) kicked off the first week of August with WHINSEC's annual Democracy and Human Rights Week.

The event provided participants with a forum for the exchange of ideas as to how international human rights and humanitarian law applies to today's complex military and police operations within the context of a democratic society. Participants included all students attending CGSOC and invited facilitators, who are experts in their area of international law.

The week fully implemented the congressional intent of H.R. 5408, which established the Institute in 2001 and called for a curriculum emphasizing respect for human rights, the rule of law, due process of law, civilian control of the armed forces and the role of the military in a democratic society.

Because one week was not enough to cover all these topics, some of them were discussed previously in July during WHINSEC's Field Studies Program (FSP), in which students visited Atlanta and local government offices in Columbus, Ga. to observe U.S. democracy in action.

Several of these issues were also covered during the forum on Armed Forces and Democracy, which was taught by the WHINSEC Commandant Col. Gilberto Pérez, Guatemalan Guest Instructor Dr. Luis Ramirez and myself.

Highlights of the Democracy and Human Rights Week included:

- A day-long seminar on the legal requirements of International Humanitarian Law in military and police operations facilitated by Maj. Antonio Raimondo, WHINSEC's chief of Human Rights and International Law Division.
- A three-day seminar on the legal requirements of International Humanitarian Law on military and police operations, which was facilitated by Andres Kruesi, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delegate from Washington, D.C.
- A day-long trip to Andersonville, Ga. to visit the Prison Site and National Prisoner of War Museum guided and facilitated by Raimondo. The focus of the Andersonville trip was to exchange ideas on ways to meet the command responsibility requirement to care for all detainees during military and police operations.

In addition, the week featured two special late afternoon guest lecturers, whose presentations were followed by lively question and answer sessions.

Dr. Bonnie Docherty of Human Rights Watch located in Washington D.C. spoke to the course on "The Use of Cluster Bombs in Iraq and Afghanistan and Its Collateral Damage to Non-Combatants." This is a topic that she has researched and written about based on extensive in-country travel and interviews.

Former Vice-Chairman of WHINSEC's Board of Visitors and international trade attorney Steven Schneebaum from Washington D.C. spoke on "Support Our Troops! Pride in Our Soldiers and the Rule of International Law."



Courtesy Photo

CGSOC students traveled to Atlanta during WHINSEC's Field Study Program week in part to tour the of Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, which includes the Ebenezer Baptist Church and Museum.

All events were well attended, including representatives from SOUTHCOM, the Department of the Army in Washington and a journalist writing an article for Amnesty International. All events were also noteworthy for the lively and lengthy discussions they engendered. They helped set the stage for the rest of the course where students will constantly be required to consider these issues as they develop operational plans at battalion, brigade and divisional levels.

On a less positive note, WHINSEC's Department of State representative Mr. Michael Oreste, who has been the lead instructor for the past year in both the Armed Forces and Democracy block and the FSP program, has been suddenly posted to Iraq as the Deputy Political Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, where he is in charge of internal political affairs. All of us here at WHINSEC wish him and his family the best as he serves our country on the front lines in the coming year.

INSTRUCTORS TRAIN COLOMBIAN SOLDIERS FOR MID-EAST MISSION

Story by Maj. Luis Rodriguez, USAF
Instructor, Strategy Division
ELH Special Contribution

Recently I had the opportunity to travel to Colombia, along with Maj. Jose Acevedo, WHINSEC's Chief of Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Humanitarian Assistance to participate in a Subject Matter Expert Exchange with the Soldiers from the Colombian Army. From Sept. 11-16 we conducted training for a select group of 160 Colombian Officers and Noncommissioned Officers to aid in their preparation of an upcoming deployment to the Middle East's Sinai region.

As part of the 79th rotation of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) mission. The MFO is a peacekeeping mission based on the international agreement subscribed by Israel and Egypt in 1979 that culminated a long history of dispute over the Sinai Peninsula. The treaty called for United Nations intervention, which at the time only consisted of a United Nations Emergency Force II, also known as UNEF II.

After the treaty expired in July 1979, the UN did not consider creating a new one. So instead a substitute mandate was needed. A new agreement was later consolidated, which was called U.S. Sinai Field Mission (SFM) and it took a new mission, with greater emphasis on certain verification functions specified in the Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty.

Although this is considered a UN-style peacekeeping operation, it bears no connection to the world body since its' funding comes from about 12 nations. Colombia, Uruguay and nine other countries from all over the world would eventually become members of this new contingent of forces entrusted with the supervision of the security provisions of the Egyptian-Israeli Treaty of Peace.

For Colombia, the entrance into the MFO mission traces its origins to 1981 when then-President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala decided to send a battalion of military and civilian personnel to the Sinai region in response to an official request from the MFO's Director for 500 Infantry Soldiers.

For Battalion Colombia #3 – or COLBATT as it is referred to in theater – it is a unique and important mission; one that has persisted without interruption since 1981. The COLBATT's mission is to supervise the implementation of all the security provisions of

the Egyptian-Israeli Treaty of Peace and employ best efforts to prevent any violation of its terms.

As mandated in the 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, the Colombian group was designated the responsibility of providing constant vigilance of Zone Charlie, which is located in the center of the Sinai Peninsula on the Egyptian side.

To assist in this effort, Acevedo and I instructed the Colombian Soldiers on a diverse set of topics over a five-day period, including topics of Human Rights, Peacekeeping Operations, Rules of Engagement, Mission and Organization of the MFO, the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and US doctrine in peacekeeping operations.

Several students also conducted a case study designed to analyze the most relevant aspects of UN peacekeeping operation. These Soldiers "responded very favorably, and provided insightful comments to the case study," said Acevedo.

According to the WHINSEC Assistant Commandant Col. José Octavio Duque Lopez, a Colombian native, it is considered an honor for the Colombian Soldier to be chosen for this assignment.

"The Colombian Soldier who is selected to be a part of the MFO has distinguished him or herself in performance of their duties in fighting their main enemy -- the FARC guerrillas," Duque said.



Map of the Sinai Peninsula, which shows Zone Charlie, the Colombian Army's Area of Responsibility.

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FESTIVAL OF THE HEMISPHERE



BOCADILLOS





Courtesy Photo

Above: Instructor Staff Sgt. Graulau, wearing the white helmet, shows students how to properly secure safety lines before raising personnel and equipment from the top of Mount Yonah in Dahlonega, Ga.



Courtesy Photo



Photo by Spc. Adrian Lugo

Staff Sgt. Feliciano suits up in scrubs for his students, including "Jessica" (second from left), to give a class and demonstration on baby delivery procedures during WHINSEC's seven-week Combat Medical Assistance Course.

Left: Instructors line up for the camera directly below the Ranger sign at Camp Merrill. From left to right: Chilean Guest Instructor Master Sgt. Vásquez, Colombian Guest Instructor Maj. Romero, Staff Sgt. Feliciano, Colombian Guest Instructor Command Sgt. Maj. Jiménez and Staff Sgt. Graulau.

Medical Assistance AAR cont. (from pg 1)

Feliciano was further pleased to learn that other CORAH field medics will also benefit from the WHINSEC course. According to the letter, CORAH officials plan to replicate various aspects of the instruction, such as basic life saver measures, fluid replacement, water purification, emergency childbirth and minor surgical procedures.

"It is really gratifying for me and an honor to WHINSEC knowing that the training they received here was so impacting and positive that their own countries are implementing these techniques and skills into their own training," Feliciano said.

In addition, such techniques and skills learned by the medic students were then tested at the end of WHINSEC's seven-week medical course in the mountains of Dahlonega, Ga. at Camp Frank D. Merrill, home of the 5th Ranger Training Battalion and the mountain phase of the U.S. Army

Ranger School. The five-day trip was coordinated to train the students in Situational Training Exercises, mountaineering, rappelling, as well as high-angle rescue training techniques to simulate the steep terrain typical of many Latin American countries.

"Most of the work they do, such as involvement in the counterdrug effort, occur in mountainous terrain so learning these rescue techniques in Dahlonega is completely to their advantage," said Feliciano. "Students, such as Jessica, will then return to their home country with a better professional capacity as combat medics."

Coincidentally, their professional capacity as field medics was tested beyond the scheduled training when a student sprained an ankle and was treated and transported with the help of the class.

According to Feliciano, the emergency situation became even more true-to-life for the Latin American students when it began to rain heavily, causing the ground to quickly turn muddy and slippery.

"It immediately went from training event to a real medical situation, and even the climate and the topography were similar to our own home countries," said WHINSEC Colombian Guest Instructor Sgt. Maj. Cesar Jimenez. "This made the students apply everything they had learned, not only in regard to medical techniques, but also applying tactics, developing initiative, and working as a culturally diverse group." "But it is these types of situations that make the courses more motivating for these students," he said. And it is these types of situations – and the reassuring responses from students such as Jessica – that motivate the instructors as well.

WHINSEC's HEMISPHERIC ADVISORY BOARD

19 countries work together to create successful training programs

by Col. José Octavio Duque López
Deputy Commandant, WHINSEC
Chairman of the Hemispheric Advisory Board
ELH Special Contribution

WHINSEC has a Hemispheric Advisory Board (JAH) which fosters international dialogue in a simple, concrete and effective manner, with the mission of advising the Commandant to help simplify his decision-making responsibility.

The Advisory Board consists of senior officer and noncommissioned officer guest instructors from each nation represented at the Institute, with a total of 19 countries currently participating. The members of the JAH support the armed forces of their respective countries and ensure that their fellow countrymen and women obtain the best results possible from the Institute's training programs.

When afforded the privilege of training our soldiers, we feel not only the responsibility of focusing our best efforts and experiences to improve our combat effectiveness on a daily basis, but also the great honor of bearing the flags of an Institute that, indeed, values the principles of human rights and democracy.

As an advisory panel to the Commandant, the Board's primary mission is to provide feedback for instruction and training purposes on situations and challenges currently being faced by our nations and military forces throughout the Hemisphere, whether internally or externally, as well as in our region and hemispheric relationships.

'And, it is toward this end that the Hemispheric Advisory Board exists to set the necessary conditions for freedom, peace, and liberty.'

Consequently, it is necessary that this task be accomplished within the parameters espoused by our defense attachés in Washington, based on the standards and regulations of the internal policies of our nations. To fulfill this objective, the JAH conducts a permanent and solid analysis of the academic tasks at WHINSEC, supplemented by an adequate array of objectives and accomplishments proposed by our countries. Following are some of the Board's implicit objectives:

- To evaluate the preparation, implementation and final results of the courses developed at the Institute, both academically and administratively, in coordination with the Quality Assurance Office. The Board exercises more than a minimal oversight function by providing effective and substantive advice to achieve the highest results possible.

- To inform and guide the academic needs of our armed forces for consideration in the objectives of each course, taking into consideration the threats and challenges currently facing the region and Hemisphere.

- To share our interests and experiences as a means to contribute to the training and professional development of faculty members and attain better trained instructors with a strong foundation in teaching methods, both technical and theoretical.

- To make the Institute known in our countries. Guest Instructors take on the role of "ambassadors" before security and defense institutions of the nations represented, to apprise with clarity and precision on the benefits to be gained from the Institute by our armed forces.

- To promote an environment leading to greater cultural awareness and understanding among students and guest instructors. The members of the JAH counsel the Institute's staff on matters relating to customs and practices of the various countries in order to help the Institute achieve its desired goals.

- To be knowledgeable about our country's customs, traditions, military philosophy, national interests, history and particular form of democracy, and about the principles, values and virtues which shape our societies, and convene the sovereignty of our nations.

In summary, in addition to fulfilling its mission of training soldiers, the Institute seeks to promote transparency, cooperation and understanding between our nations.

And, it is toward this end that the Hemispheric Advisory Board exists to set the necessary conditions for freedom, peace and liberty.



Photo by Spc. Adrian Lugo

WHINSEC Commandant Col. Gilberto Pérez (center) stands to address members of the Advisory Board, including Deputy Commandant Col. José Octavio Duque López, seated beside Pérez.



Photo by Jo Kennedy
Lt. Col. Lawler, First Sgt. Gonzalez and Spc. Salazar prepare to fire during a combat pistol simulation exercise at WHINSEC's Engagement Skills Trainer 2000.

HHC TRAINING cont. (from pg 1)

Techniques, rifle and pistol marksmanship, Land Navigation, and map reading skills.

Soldiers will also have the opportunity to train in Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) to help them prepare for possible deployments overseas and specifically to Iraq, says Gonzalez.

According to HHC commander Cpt. Jorge Albin, these types of training have to recur several times a year to accommodate for the constant addition of new Soldiers.

More importantly, regular training is necessary to produce a desirable outcome overall.

"For example, a person who shoots once a year is not going to be proficient," Albin said.

"Shooting is a perishable skill and, along with shooting, there are

other tasks involved that need to be second nature for the Soldier."

Albin pointed out that a Soldier should know additional combat shooting skills, such as clearing a jam, transitioning from your primary weapon to your secondary, and zeroing a new weapon.

Considering the temporary shortcomings in providing comprehensive training, creating a standardized combat training plan for WHINSEC Soldiers is still a work in progress, says Albin.

But these training opportunities are positive steps in the right direction.

"I would like it to be standardized and on a recurrent schedule, that way it stays with them," Albin said. "I would like to get to the point where we are presenting effective training on a quarterly basis."

Cross-Cultural Exchange Enhances Post's Drug Prevention Program

By Jo Kennedy
ELH Staff Writer

Alcohol and Drug Control Officer Yvonne Wilbanks was recently amazed to learn that there was a resource on Fort Benning that could help to prevent drug use among U.S. Soldiers.

She was even more amazed by what she learned after getting up close and personal with it.

Last week, Wilbanks and six representatives from Fort Benning's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) were provided an inclusive briefing and tour of a simulated South American-style cocaine production lab by U.S. and foreign officials from the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC).

The briefing, which covered topics such as the typical layout of Colombian drug labs and the chemical process involved with producing cocaine, was held on Nov. 3 and led by WHINSEC Chief of Special Operations Cpt. Robert Armstrong and Guest Instructor Cpt. Zaid Pabon from the Colombia's National Police Military Intelligence Division, both of whom have extensive experience with South American counterdrug interdiction operations.

According to ASAP's Noncommissioned Officer in Charge Sgt. First Class Derek



WHINSEC Deputy Director of Tactics and Special Operations Cpt. Edwin Serrano (center) and Guest Instructor Cpt. Zaid Pabon from Colombia's National Police (left) explain the typical Latin American cocaine production process to Fort Benning's Army and Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) representatives Staff Sgt. Edith Coney and Sgt. Derrick Hardy during a tour of the Institute's simulated cocaine production lab, 3 Nov.

Ferrell, by using some of the fundamental facts learned from the briefing, ASAP may actually deter a Soldier from using drugs.

As an example, Ferrell referred to Armstrong's description of how in Bolivia the hired workers will stomp around in huge manmade tubs to extract the coca from the leaves. During this process, the employees are unable to take breaks so oftentimes they defecate and urinate while in the basins.

This grotesque information may stick out in Soldiers' minds the next time they want to use cocaine and dissuade them out of

disgust, says Ferrell.

Following the informative presentation, the group was led into the woods of WHINSEC's training area to tour the simulated drug lab, which covers approximately 200 square meters and includes nine small buildings that were recently reconstructed by WHINSEC to provide more realistic and demanding field training in counterdrug interdiction operations.

"It was an awesome experience to be able to see up close an actual simulated

See Cross-Cultural Exchange page 11

Cross Cultural Exchange cont. (from pg 10)

drug lab right here on Fort Benning,” said Wilbanks. “We read about the drug labs in books and see them in photos but this gave us the opportunity to get a little closer to what a real Colombian drug lab is like.”

“We’ll be able to use this information in our own day-to-day operations to train our military leaders on what to look for in cases of suspected drug use,” she said.

Cpt. Edwin Serrano, WHINSEC’s Deputy Director of Tactics and Special Operations, believes an interesting and effective opportunity for drug prevention may have formed from this meeting.

“On one side, WHINSEC works with the Latin American officials who come here to Fort Benning teach about the cocaine production process in their own countries. On the other hand, ASAP is trying to prevent drug use here on Fort Benning,” he said. “This may open the doors for a positive educational combination.”

Apparently, plans are already under way for an extended partnership. The ASAP group has accepted WHINSEC’s invitation for future briefings and in return, ASAP has invited Pabon to visit their facilities as a guest lecturer.

“Our staff said that they will never forget this experience,” said Wilbanks. “We are so impressed that WHINSEC is willing to partner with us and to share this resource, which will help us do our jobs better.”



Photo by Jo Kennedy

Fort Benning's Alcohol and Drug Control Officer Yvonne Wilbanks (far right) and representatives from Fort Benning's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program pose for a picture with their tour guides, including Deputy Director of Tactics and Special Operations Cpt. Edwin Serrano (far left), Chief of Special Operations Cpt. Robert Armstrong (second from left) and Colombian Guest Instructor Cpt. Zaid Pabon (right of center), at WHINSEC's simulated cocaine production lab, 3 Nov.



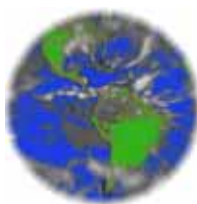
Puerto Rican Salsa Artist and seven-time Grammy Award recipient Tito Nieves stops by WHINSEC for a tour on Nov. 4 before heading to his Fort Benning performance.

Left: Civilians and Soldiers gather at the main entrance to greet Nieves with a warm WHINSEC welcome. Right: Nieves poses for the camera with Sgt. First Class Figueroa, Staff Sgt. Figueroa, Sgt. First Class Parris, and Staff Sgt. Morales. Below: Guetamalan Guest Instructor Dr. Ramirez and Nieves are 'thumbs up' for the camera.



Left: Nieves autographs a concert poster for EDETEC Assistant Marilyn Flores. Right: Nieves signs WHINSEC's Guest Book during his tour of the Institute.





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Newsletter of the...

Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation
7011 Morrison Ave., Ridgway Hall
Fort Benning, GA 31905

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47



God Bless Fort Benning Day!



Come and show your support
for our Fort Benning troops.

Live performance by Tracy Lawrence
National Country Singer

Concert is Free to the public!

Saturday, November 19, 2005

10:00am - 6:00pm

at the Columbus Civic Center in Columbus, Georgia

Food, Fun and Entertainment!

Columbus Cottonmouths Game at 6pm

For more information visit our website: www.godblessfortbenning.com

Please bring a new toy for Santa's Castle.

(A non-profit group distributing toys to soldiers' families for Christmas.)